

1 **Abstract of the Invention**

2 A linear measuring device includes a tape housing and a semi-
3 flexible measuring tape housed within the tape housing in a
4 generally spiral configuration with an outer end extendable through
5 a tape outlet opening. An extendable generally flat rear tail is
6 movably mounted on the tape housing generally opposite the tape
7 outlet opening and a generally flat forward tongue is mounted on
8 and extends forwards from the outer end of the measuring tape.
9 Finally, two sets of measurements are displayed on the measuring
10 tape, the outer measurement set displaying the total extended
11 distance of the measuring tape from the outer end to the tape
12 outlet opening and the inner measurement set displaying the total
13 distance from the outer end of the rear tail to the outer end of
14 the forward tongue such that outer and inner measurements are
15 simultaneously displayed on the measuring tape.